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A resolution by Supervisors Martin and Nicholson, authorizing and directing the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) to change the name of Columbus Park to Indigenous Peoples’ Park to align with the values of Milwaukee County and to honor local indigenous groups, and authorizing an appropriation transfer in the amount of \$9,700 from Org. Unit 1800-1945 Appropriation for Contingencies to Org. Unit 9000 DPRC, by recommending adoption of the following:

**AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Columbus Park (the Park) is located between North 72<sup>nd</sup> and North 74<sup>th</sup> Streets, and West Courtland and West Glendale Avenues in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 1956, the Park was named for Christopher Columbus by the Milwaukee County (the County) Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, the history of the settling of the United States of America (U.S.), and the role that Christopher Columbus played, is contentious and frequently ignores the displacement and suffering of Indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous peoples were forced to relinquish their land in the early 1800s by settlers to expand West, and were either forced onto reservations in isolation, or made to assimilate with colonizing groups; and

WHEREAS, the County is home to several Indigenous groups, including the Menominee, Fox, Mascouten, Sauk, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Ho-Chunk tribes, along with the many tribes that live throughout the State of Wisconsin; and

~~WHEREAS, the largest Native American population in Wisconsin, the Menominee, was pressured to sell away 11,600 square miles of land along the lower Fox River; and~~

~~WHEREAS, other tribes, including the Sauk and Fox tribes, were forced to cede their land claims in southern Wisconsin; and~~

WHEREAS, the Park is located on land ceded to the U.S. in the Potawatomi Treaty of 1833; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution on December 15, 2016, (File No. 16-698), declaring the second Monday of October as Indigenous People’s Day; and

WHEREAS, the naming of a park often reflects significant individuals and contributions to the community; and

47 WHEREAS, changing the name of the Park to Indigenous People’s Park is a  
48 meaningful way to honor the contributions of Indigenous groups throughout the County;  
49 and

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51 WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks, Energy, and Environment (PE&E), at its  
52 meeting of January 29, 2019, recommended adoption of File No. 19-101 (vote 3-0); and

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54 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, at its meeting of  
55 February 7, 2019, referred File No. 19-101 back to the Committee on PE&E (vote 18-0);  
56 and

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58 WHEREAS, the Committee on PE&E, at its meeting of July 16, 2019, reaffirmed  
59 its previous recommendation to adopt File No. 19-101 as amended (vote 4-1);  
60 now, therefore,

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62 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby directs  
63 the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) to change the name of  
64 Columbus Park to Indigenous Peoples’ Park; and

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66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPRC is authorized to perform any steps  
67 necessary to implement the change; and

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69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Administrative Services is  
70 authorized and directed to process an appropriation transfer in the amount of \$9,700  
71 from Org. 1800-1945 – Appropriation for Contingencies, to an appropriate account  
72 within Org. 9000 – DPRC, to offset the anticipated costs of updating the signage at the  
73 park to reflect the new name.

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